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Weather Forecast	Today	High:74 Low:47
Saturday	Sunday	
		High:76 Low:44
		High:64 Low:51

FRIDAY

Fort Riley Post

Post teams duke it out

The 2002 - 2003 Fort Riley Men's Company Level Basketball Tournament is currently being held at King Field House. Games will be held tonight starting at 6 p.m. The championship game will be held on Tuesday, 6 p.m., at King Field House. The current team standings, as of March 10 can be found on today's Sports Page. The game bracket is posted at the field house.

See Page 11

Fort Riley MPs prepare equipment to deploy



By Lori Bultman
Editor

The 977th Military Police Company recently received deployment orders and on March 7, moved their vehicles into position in preparation for the journey to a Central Command area of responsibility.

"An MP company has so much stuff, and these soldiers have been extremely busy since we received our orders," said Capt. Dan Lorenzen, commander, 977th MP Co.

The company prepared more than 50 vehicles for rail loading at Camp Funston.

The soldiers were ready for the mission, Lorenzen said. "It just happens," he said of the troops getting their equipment in order.

"We have some good soldiers and NCOs, who have deployed three or four times before. We have a lot of experience in the unit," he said.

Lorenzen said that overall morale is high.

Spc. Robert Traynham, 2nd Platoon, 977th MP Co., said that after being in the Army for a while, he feels like he has been preparing for this very thing. "I've been practicing for the game for five and a half years and now it's game time."

The 977 MP's Family Readiness Group has been busy preparing for the deployment as well.

"Our FRG is great," Lorenzen said. "I get called three times a day, then offering support. They went out and recruited local vendors to donate items for our Family Readiness Group meeting. They are a great group and very proactive. They go out and look for things to do to help."

The MP Company does not have a deployment date at this time, but when their time comes to depart Fort Riley, Lorenzen said his troops are ready for the challenges that lie ahead.

Spc. Angela Ellis, 3rd Platoon, 977 Military Police Company, affixes a shipping sticker to a vehicle in preparation for rail loading.

Recent fires could have been prevented

By Michael Watson
Staff writer

Most fires at Fort Riley start in unattended kitchens — a watched pot never boils, Fort Riley Fire Chief John Boyd said.

But the cause of recent fires on post has been unsupervised children. In three instances since Jan. 30, homes were destroyed by children experimenting with fire or playing near an open flame.

"Just like a watched pot that never boils, a watched child never starts a fire," Boyd said. "If someone is watching their child, fires will not happen, or at least not spread."

Supervision could have deterred the most recent fire from spreading, when a candle tipped onto a bed when two children were playing in a bedroom, Boyd said. The fire was ruled accidental in nature, but the occupant was still negligent, because the children were left in a room with an open flame.

The other two fires occurring recently were started by children playing with a fire-starting device, like matches or a lighter. Boyd said that could have been avoided by keeping these devices out of reach of children and by teaching them the danger of playing with fire.

Whether fires start in the kitchen or in a children's playroom, parents and children need to think about their actions. If negligence is involved, the occupants could lose their housing privileges on post, said Lorna Tillisch, chief, Housing Services.

In the past, even a negligent occupant could be put on the waiting list for housing to live on post again, as long as the damage was not extremely severe, she said.

However, that changed when the Well Being Board, composed of representatives from Public Works, the Staff Judge Advocate's office, Provost Marshal office and others, was formed in November 2001.

The Board discusses each case individually and determines if the negligence or severity of the case warrants a recommendation that

- The Kansas SAFE KIDS Coalition suggests the following:**
- Install smoke detectors on every level of a home and in every sleeping area
 - Test smoke detectors monthly
 - Replace batteries at least once a year
 - Replace smoke detectors every 10 years.
 - Plan and practice two escape routes out of the house and each room
 - Practice the drill spontaneously at night, because 50 percent of house fire deaths occur between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m.
 - Designate an outside meeting place, in case a fire separates the family

IRS allows late filing for deployed soldiers, not Army civilians

Army News Service

Soldiers deployed to Kuwait, Afghanistan and other countries in that theater, along with those in the Balkans, will be allowed extra time to file and pay their income taxes.

Soldiers will have at least 180 days after they redeploy home to file their federal tax returns, and no penalty or interest will accrue during this period. Deployed civilian employees, though, do not have this automatic deferral. They must pay penalties on any owed taxes, even if they file a request for an extension of time to file, according to the Internal Revenue Service.

IRS Acting Commissioner Bob Wenzel sent a letter last month to Secretary of the Army Thomas White urging tax compliance among civilian employees. The letter stated that almost 4.5 percent of the Army's employees had some type of federal income tax delinquency as of October.

"The rate of (tax) compliance among federal employees and retirees continues to be better than that of the general public," Wenzel said in the letter. "However, our most recent data shows a significant number of potentially non-compliant federal employees and retirees."

"If the public perceives that federal employees do not maintain the highest level of tax compliance," Wenzel wrote, "public confidence in government will suffer."

The automatic extension of time for soldiers to file their taxes is based on service in a combat zone or qualified hazardous duty area. Afghanistan has been considered a combat zone since Sept. 19, 2001. Jordan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan have also been designated as areas in direct support of combat for Enduring Freedom.

Kuwait was declared a combat zone in 1991, and that designation has never been lifted.

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia and Kosovo are considered hazardous duty areas and soldiers serving there receive the same deferral on their taxes as those in combat zones, according to IRS rules.

Army civilian employees and DoD contractors serving in the Balkans and Southwest Asia, though, have no such automatic deferral, IRS officials said. They must file Form 4868, an Application for Automatic Extension to File U.S. Individual Income Tax. This will provide an automatic four-month extension to file until Aug. 15, but this will not eliminate interest on late payments.

"Bottom line is, civilians are not included in the exemption, no matter who they work for," said Cassandra Charlton, an IRS senior analyst. She said deployed soldiers are exempt because "they're putting their lives on the line for us."

In addition to extra time to file, soldiers in a combat zone do not pay any income taxes on the wages they earn while deployed in the area. For enlisted troops and warrant officers, if any part of a month is spent in a combat zone, then that entire month's wages are exempt. For officers, the exclusion is limited to the highest rate of enlisted pay.

Hostile fire or imminent danger pay is also excluded from income tax.

Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers called to active duty — even state-side duty — might also qualify for a deferral of taxes owed, if they can show that their ability to pay taxes was impaired because of their military service. The Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act provides this benefit.

This deferral is also available to new recruits, IRS officials said. It extends the payment deadline for taxes until 180 days after the first term of service ends.

Soldiers must request this deferral, however. It is not automatic like the deferment for soldiers in combat zones.

Furthermore, if deployed soldiers did not file income-tax returns for 2001 or earlier, being in a combat zone will not exempt them from late penalties for past years, IRS analyst Charlton said.

The extension of time to file also applies to spouses of military members deployed to combat zones.

On the other hand, if a family is owed tax refunds and wants to get money back immediately, the spouse back home can file tax returns on behalf of the deployed soldier.

Upon returning home from a combat zone, soldiers normally have more than 180 days to file their returns.

The tax deadline is also extended by the number of days between deployment and April 15. For example, if a soldier was deployed Jan. 15, then he would have had three months to file his taxes before the normal April 15 deadline. So upon returning home, he will have 180 days plus another three months to file.

When soldiers file their returns, the IRS advises them to attach a statement explaining what situation qualifies them for the extension. Or they can write in red letters "Enduring Freedom" on the front of their return if it applies.

Soldiers in Kuwait should write "Operation Desert Storm Combat Zone" on all correspondence to the IRS, including their 1040 tax form. The reason for using "Desert Storm" is because that authorization was approved for Kuwait in 1991 and has never been closed.

Soldiers practice culinary skills at workshop

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

A team of Fort Riley food service specialists has been preparing for several months to compete in the 28th Annual U.S. Army Culinary Arts Competition at Fort Lee, Va.

The Fort Riley team consists of twelve personnel; six team members, three apprentices, a team captain, a team manager and an administrative person. The team was chosen from the unit dining facilities on post. The soldiers were selected during the Thanksgiving Day Best Dining Facility competition, the Fort Riley Culinary Arts Workshop and the Fort Riley Junior and Senior Chef Competition.

The soldiers will be competing in several different categories including baking, static displays and field cooking, among others. A culinary knowledge bowl, a quiz that covers terminology and cooking techniques, will also be held.

For many of the competitors, this is their first time at the competition. While they may be a little nervous, they are confident in each other.

"I think we will do fine as a group," said Spc. Shontrina Jones, who will be attending the competition as an apprentice. "We have determination to do well."

"As a team, we work well together," said Spc. Angela Lutes, also an apprentice. "Some of us come from the same DFAC, and we know each other well."

The competition is a teaching experience as well as a learning experience, said Spc. Helen Osby, who will be preparing a buffet platter for the competition. "What we learn at the competition and from each other, we take back to our DFACs to teach the people we work with," she said.

The culinary arts competition was scheduled to begin March 1, but due to current operations, the event was canceled.

The soldiers still traveled to Fort Lee and practiced their culinary skills.

"It was good experience for the soldiers to go to the workshop anyway," Master Sgt. Leroy Heyward. "We will continue our workshops here through this summer and are preparing for next year's competition."



Spc. Nathan Lerch and Spc. Richard McKey prepare to serve food at their practice workshop.



Fires continued from page 1

the family be removed from quarters or the waiting list permanently.

"If occupants are found negligent, the board usually recommends moving them off-post permanently," Tillisch said. "House fires endanger the lives and possessions of other people, so we have to protect our other occupants."

Tillisch said accidents happen

to good people, so measures need to be taken to prevent harm to families and their belongings.

"Don't think that a fire cannot happen in your home, because it can," she said. "People should constantly be monitoring their home to make sure there are no fire hazards, especially if there are young children. Clutter in the home not only speeds up the flames but can block exits."

It is also highly recommended that occupants purchase renter's insurance. To discuss coverage options, contact an insurance agent off post, Tillisch said.

"If you have a fire in your home caused by occupant negligence, you are responsible for damages. You may lose all of your personal belongings as well as your home."

While accidents happen, she said most could be avoided, especially in instances as simple as keeping matches, lighters or burning candles out of the reach of children.

"If you have a child unsupervised and playing in a room with an open flame, something is wrong," she said.

Boyd said parents should look carefully and find hazards that younger children can reach. "Get in the habit of putting matches and cigarette lighters away," he said. "Don't just put them away in drawers, because children can find them. And I don't know any device with a flame that is completely child proof."

"Watched pots are safe pots, and watched children are safe children."

Plan Ahead
In the event of a fire, simple safety practices, such as working smoke detectors, can drastically reduce the chance of a fire-related death.

The chance of dying in a residential fire is cut in half when a smoke detector is present, according to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Grunt By Wayne Ulden

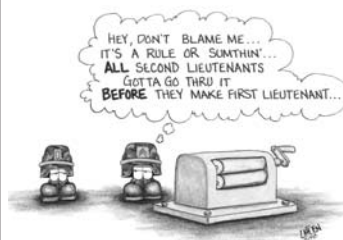


Photo Illustration/ G Skidmore

Women's History Month celebration planned

By Emily O'Connor

Staff Writer

Fort Riley will be celebrating Women's History Month during the month of March. As part of the celebration, the Equal Opportunity Office will sponsor a free program at Normandy Theater, March 19, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. The theme of this year's program is "Women Pioneering the Future."

Pat Anderson, USD 475 assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, will be speaking at the event.

A free food sampling will be offered at the celebration, including Swedish meatballs, honey barbecue wings, potato salad and coleslaw. Baked beans, cheesecake, iced tea and fruit punch will also be offered.

For more information about Women's History Month, contact the Equal Opportunity Office at 239-2277 or 239-2928.

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Post theater getting new name

By Kim Levine

Staff Writer

Normandy Theater, building 7866, Custer Hill, will be re-named in dedication of Brig. Gen. Bruce Barlow at a ceremony on March 21.

Barlow served at Fort Riley from August 1996 to June 1999, as chief of staff, U.S. Army Garrison. He passed away April 30, 2002.

Normandy Theater was opened Nov. 14, 1974 to help fulfill the increasing needs of the Fort Riley community. The building is a 500-seat facility serving many purposes, including a movie theater, lecture hall and ceremony location.

The dedication ceremony will be at 10 a.m. at the theater.



Brig. Gen. Bruce Barlow

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Dialogue vital for children, reduces fears about security

By Chris Waltz

Army News Service

The threat of more terrorist attacks and the heightened Homeland Security alert level can contribute to children's stress, according to Army Community Service officials.

Parents should monitor their children's behavior and talk frequently with their school officials from ACS said, to help them through stressful times.

"Terrorism is a conscientious effort to coerce through fear," said Fort Myer's Army Community Service Chief Colleen Tuddenham. "This is a battlefield of the mind. There have been many more psychological casualties than the physical casualties because of the Sept. 11 attacks."

Tuddenham said dialogue is always important in a family, and parents should remember actions often times speak louder than words.

"Toddlers don't understand a lot, so it's important to give them a lot of love and cuddling," Tuddenham said. "At that age, they are extremely receptive to what parents do and they need to be a model of calm behavior. They can't run around saying the sky is falling."

Jean LaFauci, a mental health therapist for Arlington County's Project Resilience, said parents should also monitor their own behavior and maintain their routine. "Parents should go about their day like it's any other normal day," said LaFauci.

"If the threat level is height-

ened again and parents freak out and start rearranging their schedule, the child will feel the stress as well."

Tuddenham said when it comes to dialogue, one size doesn't fit all, and parents need to gear their conversations to children accordingly.

"The greatest fear for kids, Tuddenham said, at any age, is the thought of being separated from their parents. The world we live in now forces children to have anxious feelings more frequently.

"Tell them there are people out there trying to do bad things, but mostly everyone does good things."

Older children have a better understanding of world news and are more able to process complex thoughts, LaFauci said. It's a delicate situation for parents because it's difficult to decipher between teenagers who are fearful of more terrorist attacks and the rebellious nature associated with most teenagers, she said.

"Teenagers need to be asked about what they know, what they think and what they feel," said Sandi Hanish, a clinical nurse at the Pentagon's Operation Solace. "Parents can't wait for them to bring it up because they probably won't."

"Older kids may act like they're 'too cool' to be affected by what's going on around them because many of them will wait to see how their peers react," Tuddenham said. "They may have angry outbursts and take more risks as a way of acting out, but what teenager doesn't? Parents know their children ... and what's best for [them]."

News reports last week said military children are being harassed at school and by some teachers who are anti-war on Iraq.

Maine National Guard members complained to state officials their children are "coming home upset, depressed, crying," Maine National Guard spokesman Maj. Peter Rogers told reporters.

Rogers said Guard officials have more than 30 complaints naming individual principals, teachers and guidance counselors.

"I really hope that's not going on around here," said LaFauci.

"But, then again, you can't be naive enough to think Maine is the only place this is happening. It's not the child's fault and teachers need to respect the child's position."

"Children don't need to fight battles for their parents," Hanish said. "Military parents are doing the job they elected to dedicate their lives to. Not everyone agrees with what the military is doing."

"Those parents are defending freedom of speech and defending the Constitution," she added. "It's rather ironic."

Tuddenham said usually if parents feel at ease than most likely their child will as well.

She said there is an overwhelming amount of information available on the Web, especially on the Web Sites for the Red Cross and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Information can also be obtained from Army Community Service at (703) 696-3510, Project Resilience at (703) 228-4788 or Operation Solace at (703) 695-9110.

Talk Around Town

"Have you talked to your children about deployments?"



"I told them that I would be deployed and they said they understood that it was part of my job -- to defend our country and our way of life."

Staff Sgt. Cynda Tease
977th Military Police
Company



"I explained to my 3-year-old son and 2-year-old daughter that I would be leaving again and, like the last time, I would return home to be with them again."

Spc. David Hokenson
977th Military Police
Company



"I talked to my children about deploying and they were real heartbroken. I explained that there are some people who want to hurt others and not let them have their freedoms and we are going to help people who need it."

Sgt. Gabriel Rojas
300th Military Police
Company

FEGLI reduces rates for basic coverage

By Kim Levine

Staff Writer

Federal Employee's Group Life Insurance has lowered some premiums effective Jan. 1. The reductions affect the Basic insurance premiums and several of the Option B age bands. The new premiums are a result of generally

lower mortality rates since the last change in April 1999.

The premium for Basic life insurance has decreased \$0.0075 per \$1,000 dollars. Employees now pay 15 cents per \$1,000 dollars as opposed to 15 1/2 cents per \$1,000. Standard Option B has also added three age bands. The additional bands go up to 80 years

of age and older. Premium rate changes for Standard Option B start at the 45-49 year age band, decreasing one cent per \$1,000, and continuing down through the existing age bands.

For additional information on FEGLI premium changes, visit the program's home page at www.opm.gov/insure/life/

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Briefs

Easter Sunrise Service

The Fort Riley Easter Sunrise Service will be held April 20, 6:30 - 7:30 a.m. at the Fort Riley Outdoor Chapel. The service will be open to the community, and a breakfast will be served immediately following the service. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held at Morris Hill Chapel. For more information, contact the installation Chaplain, 239-3359.

Special Forces

A Special Forces recruiter will be visiting Fort Riley March 31 - April 2. Briefings will be held at the Post-Reenlistment building (7626) at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily, with an additional briefing at 6 p.m. on April 1. A PT test will be conducted on April 2, 7 a.m., at Long track. Candidates will wear BDU's and running shoes. For more information, call (719) 510-4493.

Legal Assistance New Hours

Starting on March 31, the Fort Riley Legal Assistance Office will be changing hours to reflect the new duty schedule. We will be open for walk-ins (notarizations and powers of attorney) on Monday and Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., on Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m., Thursday, 1 - 8 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. The appointment hours will be Monday and Tuesday, 1 - 4 p.m., Wednesday (Will Day) 9 - 11 a.m. and 1 - 8 p.m., Thursday 3 - 8 p.m., Friday 9 - 11:30 a.m. and 4:30 - 8 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. If you have any questions about our new appointment hours, call 239-3117.

Nutrition Care

In celebration of National Nutrition Month, the Nutrition Care Division at Irwin Army Community Hospital is offering several nutrition-related activities. On Tuesday, noon - 12:30 p.m., in the basement of IACH in the Nutrition Care Clinic, the hospital's nutrition care staff will demonstrate how to make nutritious and easy parfaits and on March 25, the food demonstration will teach participants how to make Sandwich Wraps. A Commissary Safari Survival Tour will be offered on March 25, 8 - 10 a.m. One of the Nutrition Care Division's Registered Dietitian will escort participants through the aisles and answer questions about nutrition. The dietitian will also show participants how to read nutrition labels and how to select foods that fit into any diet. Registration is required for the food demonstrations and the

Commissary Safari Survival Tour. To register, call the Nutrition Clinic, 239-7644. A Nutrition Booth will be at the Fort Riley Main Post Exchange in the lobby today, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. The Registered Dietitian's at IACH's Nutrition Care Division will be on hand to offer nutrition information and provide a body fat test.

Geary Health Council

Active duty servicemembers may find a need to seek medical care for a family member who isn't authorized to use the DoD health care system. Irwin Army Community Hospital is a member of the Geary Health Council. "Many Fort Riley soldiers are providing shelter and assistance to family members who are not eligible for DoD benefits, are uninsured or have limited resources," said Leslie Atkins, registered nurse and case manager at Irwin Army Community Hospital. "The Geary Health Council and their resource programs have provided these family members with vital medical and pharmacy assistance."

It was projected that on a yearly basis, 150 persons would ask for the Geary Health Council's services, according to a Resource Specialist, Mary Reid.

The Geary Health Council was established locally to serve Junction City, Milford, Grandview Plaza and Fort Riley. There is no income or age limitation - only a legitimate need for health care. "An elderly person may receive a little over \$500 a month from Social Security," Reid said. "Because of the fixed income, the person may take a prescribed medication every other day to stretch out the number of pills or not seek dental services when needing dentures."

Military retirees who live in Junction City are provided transportation to IACH. Currently the transportation to medical appointments is limited to Junction City. Reid states that the Geary Health Council also provides food to clients on the days the Junction City Food Pantry is closed. For more information, call the Geary Health Council's Resource Specialist, Mary Reid at 238-3103, ext. 152 or June Merced at 238-3102, ext. 151. The council's office is open Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., 700 N. Jefferson Street, in the basement of the Junction City Municipal Building.

Veterinary Services

Fort Riley Veterinary Services was recently notified of the pending loss of military personnel. The staff shortage will change the veterinary services' ability to care for this installation's domestic pets. Currently, Fort Riley Veteri-

nary Services will not have emergency care available and pets will be seen by appointment only. Surgical procedures will be offered on a case-by-case basis. The days and times available for making an appointment to have your pet examined, given their annual vaccinations and medications will be on Monday and Thursday, noon - 3 p.m. Also on Thursday, horse vaccinations for West Nile Virus, Rabies, Strangles or Influenza will be available and the pet microchip ID procedure will continue to be offered by appointment only.

One day each month, Fort Riley Veterinary Services will schedule appointments for neutering your male cat. There will only be 10 appointments scheduled for this surgical procedure. This month's date for having your cat neutered is Thursday.

Fort Riley Veterinary Services encourages pet owners to schedule their canine companions for their annual physicals, Heartworm tests, and flea and tick prevention. According to Veterinary Science research, it has been proven that Heartworms are inexpensive to prevent and very expensive to treat.

Office hours will continue to be 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday to schedule your pet's clinic appointment. Fort Riley Veterinary Services is located at Marshall Army Airfield, building 814. Call (785) 239-3886 for more information.

Thrift Savings Plan

The next Thrift Savings Plan Open Season will begin on April 1 and will close on June 30.

The TSP contribution limit for FERS employees for 2003 is 13 percent. The TSP contribution limit for CSRS employees for 2003 is 8 percent. The loan interest rate for new loans is 3.87 percent as of March 5.

You must enroll online for TSP, no hard copies will be accepted. Go to www.abc.army.mil or call 1-877-276-9833. For more information on TSP, go to www.tsp.gov.

DOIM Hours Today

DOIM will be closed today, 2:30 - 4:30 for a Town Hall Meeting. In the event of an emergency, please call Connie Kindel, 239-2092. Your call will be taken care

of from there.

Marriage Enrichment Class

Want to make a good marriage better? Want to better understand your spouse? Want to have your spouse better understand YOU? Come learn how to deal with misunderstandings, and how to stop the argument cycle at the monthly Marriage Enrichment Class March 22, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Soldier and Family Support Center, Relocation hallway. Free child care is provided if you bring your child's shot records.

Register by March 20 by calling 239-3436. Presented by Chap. (Maj.) James Paulson, the Fort Riley Family Life Chaplain.

Turkey Permits

The DES Conservation Division is currently accepting applications through March 24 for the 2003 Spring Turkey Lottery Drawing. Applications are available at the Outdoor Recreation Center, building 9011 and the DES, Conservation Division, building 1020. The lottery drawing will occur on March 27. A total of 180 permits are available, which will be split into two segments, April 9-30 and May 1-18. Additionally, Fort Riley will have a youth season, April 4-6. The youth season is unlimited in participation (no drawing) for eligible hunters. Persons hunting the youth season are also eligible to apply for the regular season.

For further information, contact the Conservation Division at 239-6211 or visit the website at <http://www.riley.army.mil/Recreation/Outdoor/Hunting>

Primary Care Clinics

Primary Care Clinics 1, 2 and 3 of Irwin Army Community Hospital have reopened their patient reception areas. Patients who have appointments in the Primary Care Clinics or are coming to the clinics for walk-in services are to report to their assigned Primary Care Clinic's reception area.

IACH Injections

As of March 10, TRICARE Prime patients needing injections (routine immunizations, B12 injections or DepoProvera injections)

will be sent to the IACH Immunization Walk-In Clinic located on the 1st floor in the Allergy/Well Baby hallway. Prime patients can be seen on a walk-in basis, with their medical records and immunization record, at the following times: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8 - 11 a.m. and 1 - 3 p.m. On Tuesday, immunizations will be 1 - 3 p.m., and on Thursday, 8 - 11 a.m. Allergy shots will continue to be a by appointment only, except they will only be given on Tuesday mornings, 8 - 11 a.m. and Thursday afternoons, 1 - 3 p.m.

Job Fair

The Army Career and Alumni Program is sponsoring a Job Fair March 21, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the ACAP Center on Main Post, building 210, room 7. To prepare for the Job Fair, DeAnn Parsons has provided the following Job Fair strategies. Research the companies that you would like to talk to. Come dressed appropriately for the interview and ready to discuss your experience and skills with employers. Visit or call the ACAP Center, 239-2278/2248, for more information.

Enlisted Spouses Club

The Fort Riley Enlisted Spouses Club is a service organization designed for Enlisted Spouses E1 - E9, active duty, retirees or widows. The club helps support Fort Riley and surrounding communities with donations to worthy causes as well as the donation of time and services to projects. The second purpose of ESC is to foster and promote recreational and social activities among the members while providing a support system for the enlisted spouses of Fort Riley.

Upcoming meetings for the club include: March 25 at 6:30 p.m. there will be a baby shower for the Red Cross Layette Program and nominations for a new board. The meeting will be held at

82 Pershing Avenue. There will be no childcare for this meeting. For more information on the club or upcoming meetings, call 784-3191.

Thrift Shop

The post-wide yard sale is coming up! Whatever you don't sell, call the Thrift Shop and the staff will come and pick up any donations (in good condition). Call us to pick any donations you have (in good condition). The Thrift Shop is taking Spring clothes. There are Bag Sales every Wednesday and Thursday - get as much as you can into a bag for only \$1!

Visit the Thrift Shop in building 267, Stuart Ave., 784-3874. Hours of operation are 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month.

The Shoppe

Spring is almost here! Stop by The Shoppe to give your house that fresh, spring touch. The Shoppe also have many new ideas for Easter! Don't forget The Shoppe when you're looking for that one-of-a-kind gift. The Shoppe is located in building 259, Stuart Ave., 239-2783. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday. The Shoppe accepts Visa & MasterCard (minimum of \$25 purchase) and offers gift certificates to make your shopping easier! The Shoppe is also a great place to hold a unit coffee. Call now to reserve your night!

Employment Readiness Program

The dates for the Employment Readiness Program Orientation/Intake are: Tuesday, and again March 25 and April 8, 15, 22 and 29. Pre-registration is required. The orientation is held from 9 a.m. - noon, Soldier Fam-

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More Briefs

ly Support Center, building 7264. Attend the Orientation/Intake to obtain information on the current Kansas job market and employment assistance available. Also, complete your enrollment for job search assistance. For more information, call the Employment Readiness Program, 239-9435.

Lead Guitar Player Needed

The Normandy Chapel Contemporary Protestant Service is looking for a lead guitar player for the praise band. They play contemporary Christian music at the service that meets on Sundays at 11 a.m.

Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. and Sundays, 10 a.m. If interested, call Chaplain (MAJ) Paulson, 239-3436.

Women's History Month

Fort Riley will be celebrating Women's History Month throughout the month of March. The theme for this year's celebration is, "Women Pioneering the Future." The Equal Opportunity Office will sponsor a free program at Normandy Theater on Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., to celebrate the occasion. All are invited to attend the program. For questions regarding the celebration or for materials to help you observe Women's History Month, call the

Equal Opportunity Office at 239-2277 or 239-2928.

Mail Training Change

"Introduction to Unit Mail room Operations" classes will be offered on Tuesday, 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at building 319. Pre-enrollment is required. Call 239-5411 to enroll.

AAFES/DECA Council Meeting

Make your voice heard at the next AAFES/DECA council meeting March 26, 9:30 a.m., at the Sports Page on Custer Hill. The community at large is encouraged

to attend and provide feedback about what they want to see at their local PX and Commissary. Also, they will get advance notice of upcoming special buys.

AFTB Classes

Do you know where to go for benefits? Do you know your options after retirement? Do you know the LES has changed?

Do you know what the Army expects of you? Army Family Team Building can show you all the benefits and tools available to you as a military family member. Whether you've been with the Army for six months or six years, AFTB can help.

WHO: Soldiers, Spouses, Family members and Civilians
WHAT: Free AFTB Level One Classes WHEN: March 21 at the Armed Services YMCA, 111 East 16th St., Junction City. Register or get more information from the AFTB office, 239-9435.

Parents needing FREE childcare will be taken on a first to register, first served basis, so you must pre-register for FREE childcare by calling 239-1831 no later than one week prior to the class.

dier's basic active service date (BASD) Not the DEIMS date.

Members who elect CSB/REDUX are entitled to a \$30,000 career status bonus (CSB) payable at their 15th year of active duty. The CSB may be paid in a lump sum or a series of up to five annual payments.

In no case will an election become effective before a member's 15th year of active duty. CSB/REDUX retired pay will always lag behind High-3 retired pay, so wise investment of the CSB by members who elect CSB/REDUX is necessary to lessen or possibly eliminate that gap.

All servicemembers who are between their 14 and a half and 15th year of active duty should contact the Retirement Services Office for an appointment to choose between retired pay plans. The Retirement Services Office is located in building 210, 239-3320 or 239-3667.

For more information concerning CSB/REDUX, go to www.odcsper.army.mil/Retirement

Normandy Theater

Tonight:

7 p.m.
Final Destination 2 (R)

Saturday:

7 p.m.
Biker Boyz (PG-13)

Sunday:

7 p.m.
Final Destination 2 (R)

Thursday:

7 p.m.
Biker Boyz (PG-13)

Ticket prices:
Adults - \$3
Children - \$1.50



Post/G Skidmore

A commercial Russian aircraft, AN124, was used to transport equipment and supplies from Forbes Field, Topeka, to South Korea in support of Fowl Eagle, a joint training exercise. Task Force 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor is already in Korea.

Soldier Retirement Info

Soldiers with DEIMS dates after Aug. 1, 1986, who are eligible under current Service regulations to serve continuously to 20 years, must choose between the High-3 and the CSB/REDUX retired pay plans between their 14 and a half and 15th year of active duty, although retirement won't occur until the soldier has completed 20 years of service. The 14 and a half to 15 years of active duty is calculated from the sol-

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Several chapel services change hours, locations

The Contemporary worship service and the Evangelical worship service will be switching chapels on March 23. The Contemporary service has outgrown Normandy Chapel, and will be moving to Kapaun Chapel, building 7086.

The Contemporary service begins at 11 a.m., and offers biblical preaching, contemporary Christian praise and worship accompanied by a praise band, children's church and nursery, and

small groups meeting in homes for discipleship. For more information contact Chap. (MAJ) Jim Paulson, 239-3436.

The Evangelical service is moving to Normandy Chapel, building 7865. That worship service begins at 9:30 a.m. The worship style is a combination of the newer praise songs and the classic hymns, with an emphasis on preaching biblical sermons that apply to everyday life. This service vision is based on the book

of Acts, chapter 2, verses 42 - 47.

Other activities include a Wednesday night bible study, a monthly fellowship dinner and church retreats. Children's church and nursery are also parts of the ministry. All are welcome to join in fellowship. For more information, contact Chap. (MAJ) Mike Wood, 239-7872.

Also, on March 23, the Lutheran Service will move from St. Mary's Chapel to Normandy Chapel. Their service start time

will be 11 a.m. each Sunday.

After March 30, the 6 p.m. Catholic Mass at Kapaun Chapel will be discontinued.

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Korea 50 years ago -- Private earns Silver Star on Lil Gibraltar

By Jim Caldwell
Army News Service

When the Chinese attacked a hill in Korea known as Little Gibraltar 50 years ago this week, a 19-year-old black private rushed out of his bunker to aid a wounded lieutenant colonel, killing nine enemy to earn the Silver Star.

March 13, 1953 — The House of Representatives votes 291-85 in favor of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's request to make the Federal Security Agency a cabinet post and change its name to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The resolution, which is sent to the Senate, provides that the reorganization take place within 10 days of Senate passage and presidential approval. Such reorganizations usually take a mandated 60-day reorganization period.

March 13-19, 1953 — Col. Royal N. Baker, 34, McKinney, Texas, ends his Korea tour March 13 by flying his 127th combat

mission and downing his 12th MiG-15. He is the leading ace in jet fighter warfare. He was also credited with one probably destroyed and one damaged. He shot down a Russian LA-9 propeller-driven light bomber, as well.

Senator William F. Knowland, R-Calif., calls for a total blockade of China and a condemnation of Russia in the U.N. as "a supporter of aggression" in a Senate speech March 16.

Senator John S. Cooper, R-Ky., responded that Knowland's views would lead to war with Russia, Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, D-Texas, says that U.S. armed forces aren't strong enough to back up such "tough" talk.

On the Korean front, the Chinese break a 10-day lull in I Corps' western zone on March 14. About a battalion of communists slips through concertina wire and makes it through a minefield to the trenches on Hill 355, held by soldiers of the 9th Infantry Regi-

ment, 2nd Infantry Division Hill 355, a little over three miles southwest of the Nori Hill complex, is also known as Little Gibraltar.

The Chinese overrun one platoon, but the other platoons stop them and hold until reinforcements arrive.

During the fighting, Pvt. Courtney L. Stanley, 19, a black soldier from Mansfield, La., leaves his bunker to protect a wounded lieutenant colonel lying in front of it. He kills eight communists and drives off another eight to save the officer's life. It is Stanley's first combat experience.

When the enemy withdraws, 2nd ID artillery fires on their route of retreat. The fighting costs

the regiment around 100 casualties. The Chinese are estimated to have lost more than 400 men between the fighting on the hill and the artillery.

On March 18, Adlai Stevenson, Democrat presidential nominee in 1952, ends a five-day visit to Korea. He says he is impressed "with the infinite difficulties that this cruel war presents."

He praises the South Korean people for persevering through the war. Stevenson calls it "senseless" for the Chinese to "continue to bleed and die for their Russian masters."

That night two Chinese platoons strike at the line held by the 1st Marine Division. The communists overrun an outpost named by South Koreans belonging to an ROK marine regiment attached to

the 1st Marines.

On March 19 two enemy companies attack positions held by the 5th Marines. After several hours of bitter, deadly fighting the Chinese are driven off. The marines then conduct their own raid against enemy positions.

Maj. Gen. James C. Fry, 2nd ID commander, presents the Silver Star to Stanley on March 19, and recommends the soldier be awarded a higher decoration.

March 15-16 — New Soviet Premier Georgi Malenkov delivers an inaugural address March 15 to the Supreme Soviet in Moscow. He says "there is not one disputed or undecided question that cannot be decided by peaceful means ... This is our attitude toward all states, among them the U.S.A."

He promises to carry out the policies of the late Premier Josef Stalin. One of them is "the tested policy of strengthening and preserving peace."

State Department Press Officer Lincoln White says March 16 that

Malenkov must back up his "words" with "forceful acts."

March 17 — A tactical nuclear weapon is exploded at Yucca Flat, Nev., at 5:20 a.m. It is designed for use against a well dug-in enemy along an extended front. The bomb's power was equivalent to 15,000 tons of dynamite, or 5,000 tons less than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima, according to officials. It has one-tenth the power of the nation's most powerful atomic bombs.

The 6th Division has 850 soldiers in foxholes two miles from ground zero when the bomb is exploded. Afterward the soldiers move through the blast area.

It is the 39th nuclear explosion in the world.

March 18 — The Defense Department announces that the total American casualties in Korea have risen to 131,244, including 23,209 dead.

Fort Riley continues to be a Korean War Commemorative Community through 2003.



Hancock Expedition first large scale deployment from Fort Riley

By William McKale
Museum Director



Maj. Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock

The departure of troops from Fort Riley on missions to protect American interests is nothing new. From the early years of the post, through World War I, to the present day, Fort Riley soldiers have answered the call and proved the training and values received here prepared them for whatever they were to confront.

The first large-scale deployment

from Fort Riley occurred in March 1867, in the form of the Hancock Expedition. This force was organized after the ill-fated Fetterman Massacre of the previous fall had heightened tensions on the frontier between Native Americans and newly arriving settlers.

The expedition was to be a message to Native Americans that Washington would no longer tolerate their hostile impediments to American progress.

Maj. Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock, a renowned hero of the Civil War and future presidential candidate, selected seven companies of the 7th Cavalry, six companies of the 37th Infantry and a lone artillery battery to provide force to this message. The commander of the 7th Cavalry was Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer.

The force of 1,400 soldiers left Fort Riley at the end of March 1867. They oriented on a southwest course toward the Pawnee Fork outpost at Fort Larned. Upon arriving there, Hancock's attempt to meet with the tribal chiefs from the Comanche, Kiowa, Cheyenne, Arapaho and Apache tribes proved unsuccessful. Eventually, Hancock marched on the Indian encampment, located some thirty-five miles from Fort Larned, only to find the village abandoned. He ordered Custer and his cavalry troopers to track the fleeing Indians. Custer discovered the Indians had burned a stagecoach station and killed its inhabitants. Hancock

responded by burning the village. This effectively ended the "Hancock Expedition" and heightened tensions on the frontier.

Writing to Gen. William Sherman, as he prepared to march on the Indian encampment, a reflective Hancock stated: "This is a beautiful camp, and I am not surprised that the Indians do not want to give up this country..."

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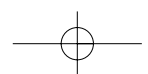
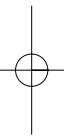


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